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## BRIEF PEACE NOTES

. . . At the conclusion of the three days' conference of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association in September, announcement was made that the committee's efforts to promote peace will be continued and the foreign work extended. From \$600,000 to \$800,000 will be used in the war zones, in addition to the half-million share of the yearly budget devoted to this purpose.

. . . The speeches made at the German Socialist National Conference in September denote that the Socialist opinion in that country would promote an immediate peace in Europe on the ante-bellum status, and voices the belief that the laboring classes of the other nations at war would support this move. No further concessions by Germany were discussed, save the possible formation of Alsace-Lorraine into an independent State within the German Empire.

. . . Support to American conduct during the war is volunteered by the London *Weekly Nation*, which warmly defends the attitude of the United States and regrets that our "hints at mediation" have met only with cold neglect. The newspaper contends that the entry of the United States into a League of Peace is the only means for insuring the balance of force on the side of law-abiding nations, and says: "We shall be guilty of a crime against civilization if, when the moment of settlement arrives, we refuse the aid of the only Power which can bring a healing influence to the world."

. . . Peace petitions are being circulated among the citizens of every belligerent nation, reports declare, and these have so far received 150,000 signatures in Great Britain alone. These are issued by the agency of the American Neutral Conference Committee, whose members include John Hays Hammond, Jane Addams, Dr. George W. Kirchwey, Rabbi Stephen Wise, Dr. Frederick Lynch, and Dr. James J. Walsh. The petitions read: "The undersigned urges His Majesty's Government to seek the earliest opportunity of promoting negotiations with the object of securing a just and lasting peace."

. . . Senator Henri la Fontaine, of Belgium, has suggested as American representatives on any World Court to be established after the war the names of Joseph H. Choate, Elihu Root, Charles W. Eliot, Andrew D. White, and James Brown Scott. Other members suggested are Viscount Bryce; Professor Renault, of Paris; Professor Zorn, of Berlin; Professor Lanmasch, of Vienna, and Professor Nys, of Brussels.

. . . Medal contests are now in process of inauguration in the various Societies of Friends, in which awards are made for recitations or declamations upon the subject of peace among school children. A successful peace contest on these lines was held at the Yearly Meeting of the North Carolina Friends, won by Miss Ruby Thurber, of Springfield, N. C., with an address entitled "Off to the Front."

. . . *The Japanese Student* is a new bimonthly, making its initial appearance in October, representing the Japanese students in America. Its form and substance does

credit to the industry of the eight members of the editorial staff, the office of which is located in Ellis Hall, University of Chicago. The yearly subscription price is \$1.00; single copies, twenty cents.

. . . At a conference of American missionaries from Japan and China, held in New York City in October, three resolutions were adopted aimed at a better understanding and more amicable relations between the United States, China, and Japan. The first of these calls upon the President and Congress to create a non-partisan commission to study the entire problem of the relations of America with Japan and with China. The second provides for a committee to present to the President and Congress recommendations endorsing the bill proposed by the American Bar Association for the enactment by Congress providing for the adequate protection of aliens, permitting the Federal Government to fulfill its treaty pledges in this respect. The third affirms the importance of "establishing as soon as possible a Bureau of Information as to Eastern Affairs" to secure accurate and unbiased information of the progress of events in the Orient and their relation to United States policies.

. . . An optional course in the technic and theory of modern warfare has been installed at the University of Pennsylvania, with an especially assigned military instructor in charge.

. . . Viscount Bryce, writing in the *Manchester Guardian*, calls England's attention to the possibility of good offices for peace on the part of the United States, and declares: "The creation of some international alliance, embracing all peace-loving nations, could hardly succeed without the co-operation of the greatest of all neutral nations. With that co-operation, difficult as the effort to construct such a scheme will be, there is at least a real hope of success."

. . . At the sessions of the General Sunday School Association and of the Young People's Christian Union, recently held at New Haven, Conn., composed of lay and clerical delegates from Universalist churches and Sunday schools throughout the United States, the following resolutions relating to the question of war and peace were passed:

"1. That we are opposed to all war, except in the case of actual invasion and for the defense of the lives of our people, of the free institutions of our country, and of human liberty and justice, as contrary to the spirit and teachings of Jesus;

"2. That we are grateful to the President of the United States for preventing war between ours and any other nation during his administration; that we sympathize with him in the tasks of immense difficulty that he must perform, and that we thank him for using his utmost endeavor to adjust the differences between the United States and other countries by arbitration rather than by armed conflict."

It is worthy of note that these resolutions were first passed by the General Sunday School Association. Resolutions of a similar import, but not so acceptably worded, which were presented at the Young People's

Convention, were withdrawn in order that these might be substituted.

... *The Nation's Business* describes attractively a club, which it declares is destined to cement international friendships, located in Buenos Aires. This is the American Commercial Club of Argentina. It is stated that the club is designed to be truly international in spirit, with connections reaching to all parts of the earth. Its direct purpose is to build up American trade in South America upon an unequivocal basis of commercial integrity, and to aid exporters in this country to meet the needs of South Americans in a manner to encourage good faith and mutual respect between the two nations.

... The Committee on American-Japanese Relations, referred to in our last issue by Baron Shibusawa, has already been appointed, notice of its organization appearing in *The Japan Peace Movement*, the organ of the Japan Peace Society and the American Peace Society of Japan. The object of the committee, it is declared, is "to promote friendly relations between the two countries, to assist in the unification of the sentiments and thoughts of the two peoples, and to strive for a peaceable solution in case difficult questions arise." It is, of course, intended that the committee will work in close co-operation with the American committee previously organized for the same purpose during Baron Shibusawa's visit to San Francisco. The charter members include Baron Ei-ichi Shibusawa, Baron Toranosuke Furukawa, Baron Ichizaimon Morimura, Mr. Tetsuro Shiritsu, president of the Industrial Bank of Japan; Mr. Saburo Shimada, president of the House of Representatives; Mr. Buyei Nakano, president of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Inazo Nitobe, of the Law College of the Tokyo Imperial University; Mr. Junnosuke Inouye, president of the Yokohama Specie Bank; Mr. Senkichiro Havakawa, general manager of the Mitsui Bank; Viscount Kentaro Kaneko, member of the Privy Council; Dr. Juichi Soyeda, president of the Government Railway Board; Mr. Gentei Zumoto, editor and proprietor of *The Herald of Asia*; Admiral Baron Sotokichi Uryu; Dr. Masaharu Anesaki, of the College of Literature of the Tokyo Imperial University; Viscount Yataro Mishima, governor of the Bank of Japan; ex-Minister of Finance Baron Yoshiro Sakatani; Mr. Soichiro Asano, president of the Oriental Steamship Co.; Baron Rempei Kondo, president of the Japan Mail Steamship Co., and prominent merchants, such as Messrs. Zenjuro Horkishi, Shinzo Takata, Manzo Kushida, and Baron Kihachiro Okura.

... An anti-militarist demonstration against the passage of the Stivers bill, in New York State, was held at Carnegie Hall, New York City, the last week in September, at which Dr. Charles F. Aked, Lincoln Steffens, Hugh Frayne, and others spoke. In this connection, President Wilson wrote to the student pacifists, under whose auspices the meeting was held:

"I am in favor of adequate defense and no more. The whole spirit and principle of militarism is abominable to me, and I do not think that anything that has been done has been done in the militaristic spirit. It has, on the contrary, been conceived and carried out with the single purpose of rendering the country safe against external dangers."

... Clubwomen of San Francisco have taken steps to ask Military Governor Calles and Civil Governor De La Huerta, of the State of Sonora, Mexico, to call together a body of women of that State to act in conjunction with the California women. By this means they would seek to aid in counteracting the effect of influences that are threatening friction between that country and the United States, and to promote generally the mutual interests of the women of the two nations, bringing about a better international understanding. The California women are in correspondence with women composing the Yucatan Congress of Women and a convention of women held in the City of Mexico.

... In connection with the President's proclamation of October 21 and 22 to be set aside as days for special work for Armenian and Syrian relief, the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief issues the following request to the American people:

"Delay in receiving printed matter, combined with other arrangements that may already have been made, will in many instances make it impracticable to organize satisfactorily for an effective offering for Armenian and Syrian relief on the dates specified by the President. In such instances it is earnestly urged that the spirit, if not the letter, of the President's proclamation be observed by taking time to secure the necessary supplies and make preparations for a satisfactory offering, in some measure commensurate with the need, a week or two weeks later than the dates suggested by the President. A winter of indescribable suffering and privation will call for continuous assistance for the destitute people of these war-trodden lands until the winter's hardships are past and next summer's harvest garnered."

... A Peace and Arbitration Society was formed in Cape Town in July, 1915. Its constitution and objects are inclusive of the aims of all who desire to work for peace, and its membership may be said to represent the principles of the "Union of Democratic Control," the "Nederlandsche Anti-Oorlog Raad," the "World Alliance of Churches," the "Fellowship of Reconciliation," the "No-Conscription Fellowship," the "League of Peace." At the time of writing the society numbers about one hundred members, although no public meetings have been held and propaganda has been confined mainly to the publication and distribution of leaflets, of which five have been issued in English and Dutch. The chief things emphasized have been the desirability of a negotiated peace on the basis of the rights of nationalities, all-round reduction of armaments, and the formation of a Permanent International Council. A monthly paper, *The Beacon*, has been started in Durban which advocates peace on the above lines.

... In the Swedish Parliament two noteworthy motions have been brought in, one by Baron Erik Palmstierna, demanding parliamentary control over foreign affairs, and the other by Mr. Carl Lindhagen asking the Parliament to write to the government and demand that it take the initiative in calling a neutral conference of mediation.

The first of these motions is pending in parliamentary Committee on Constitution; the second has been sent to special committees of both chambers. The conservative majority of the first chamber committee has re-

jected it, but the liberal and social-democratic minority has supported it. The motion has since been carried by the second chamber without a division.

. . . The ADVOCATE OF PEACE is in receipt of a letter from Mr. William Willard Howard, secretary of the Balkan Relief Fund, with headquarters at 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Mr. Howard's letter reads:

"Starving Albania, without even one newspaper of its

own to make public its need, is dying in silence, its tragedy passed by unheeded.

"Will the ADVOCATE OF PEACE open a door through which its appeal for help may reach the people of the United States?"

Of course the ADVOCATE OF PEACE will be an "open door" or anything else that will help toward the relief of actual suffering because of this war. How many of its readers will join in the work?

## AMONG THE PEACE ORGANIZATIONS

### AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY.

#### *Minnesota Division.*

Encouraging activity is reported in this Division and in the Minneapolis Section. In the latter organization plans for fall work are progressing under the direction of the new secretary-treasurer, Mr. George H. Selover. Mrs. Selover, secretary of the local Woman's Peace Party, is active in peace work, and co-operation between the two organizations is thus under favorable auspices. President Haworth, of the Minneapolis Section, is actively engaged in a campaign among the churches of the city. A class of men students engaged in the study of peace problems and internationalism has been reopened at the State Agricultural School under the direction of Prof. G. M. Howard. In the St. Paul Section there are now over two hundred and fifty members, but no reports of activity are so far available from this territory. Hon. Samuel G. Iverson has been elected Director to represent the Minnesota Division at the meetings of the American Peace Society, according to the provision of the revised constitution of the society.

#### *Georgia Division.*

The American Peace Society was well represented in a public exhibit of peace literature and other propaganda at the Southeastern State Fair, held the week of October 14. On the preceding Sunday the Secretary and Director of the South Atlantic States Department, Dr. J. J. Hall, addressed a large and interested gathering at the Tabernacle in Atlanta, giving a stereopticon lecture on War and Peace. Over 10,000 pieces of literature were distributed at the fair.

#### *North Carolina Division.*

It is with deep regret that the death is announced of Mr. James H. Southgate, of Durham, president of the North Carolina Division and an ardent supporter of the world peace movement. As chairman of the trustees of Trinity College his influence was widespread and his loss is deeply felt.

#### *Vermont Division.*

Vermont is one of the most recent affiliated societies to become an integral part of the American Peace Society under the provisions of the revised constitution. At a meeting held in Brattleboro, September 19, under the direction of James L. Tryon, Director of the New England Department, the society reorganized upon the new basis and held elections of officers. Walter A. Gilbert,

of Brattleboro, was chosen temporary secretary, and the Hon. Frank Plumley, of Northfield, formerly president, was elected honorary president. Other officers are: Vice-presidents, Rev. Richard H. Clapp, Rev. George E. Tomkinson, and Dr. Henry D. Holton; treasurer, Fred W. Putnam; directors, Miss Mary R. Cabot, Mrs. Charles H. Thompson, George L. Dunham, Rev. Delmar E. Trout, Henry Bond, Mrs. Julius J. Estey, Dr. Charles G. Wheeler, Edgar B. Smith, and Walter A. Gilbert.

### PEACE AND ARBITRATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.

Although this society has not yet ratified the provisions of the new American Peace Society constitution, hearty endorsement of that action is already assured. It is planned to form of this group the Western New York State Division of the Society. The secretary, Mr. Frank F. Williams, reports encouraging activity, including affiliation with upwards of seventy-five local churches, and much assistance provided to the local American School Peace League. The secretary is acting as Director of this latter organization, in co-operation with another member of the society officiating as president. Plans are under way to reach on a large scale the New York Teachers' Association Convention, to be held in Buffalo in November. Active measures are being taken in opposition to the conscription law in New York State and the law providing for military training in the high schools. Work among the women's clubs is distinguished by the affiliation of the Buffalo City Federation, embracing fifty-five of these clubs, which appoint each year representatives to a peace committee. Internationalism has been introduced widely among them as a topic for discussion in its various phases. Speakers are regularly sent out to the churches and public gatherings in Western New York State, and also to clubs, labor organizations, Y. M. C. A.'s, schools, etc., in the immediate locality.

### WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR PERMANENT PEACE.

#### *French Section.*

The French women of this Section recently prepared and submitted to all members of the French Senate and Chamber of Deputies the following significant plea:

"We, French women, relying on the repeated declarations of the allied governments that the only object of the existing state of war is a just peace; . . . seeing by the delays and mistakes of secret diplomacy how necessary is the democratic control of policy, demand:

"1. That all the allied governments shall formulate their peace conditions and make them known.